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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/551,405	09/29/2005	Jay A Berzofsky	015280-481100US	4476

45115 7590 12/27/2007
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EXAMINER

PARKIN, JEFFREY S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1648

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/27/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/551,405

Applicant(s)

BERZOFSKY ET AL.

Examiner

Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D.

Art Unit

1648

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 01 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 September 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Unity of Invention

Multiple Inventions

This application was filed under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and is subject to unity of invention practice pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121 and 372. The regulations governing the claiming of different inventions in one national application are set forth under 37 C.F.R. § 1.141, 1.475, and 1.499. **Applicants are reminded that if multiple products, processes of manufacture, or uses are claimed, the first invention of the category first mentioned in the claims of the application and the first recited invention of each of the other categories related thereto, will be considered as the main invention in the claims (refer to PCT Article 17(3)(a) and § 1.476(c)).** The first recited invention in the claims is an immunostimulatory peptide (Group I: claims 1-4, 7, and 17-19). If this invention is elected, a single method of use from one of Groups II, V and VI should also be elected. However, this application contains the following remaining inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.499, applicant(s) is/are required, in response to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

- a. Group I, claim(s) 1-4, 7, and 17-19, drawn to a an **immunostimulatory polypeptide**.
- b. Group II, claim(s) 5 and 6, drawn to a **method of preventing/treating HIV-1 infection** by administering an immunostimulatory **polypeptide**.
- c. Group III, claim(s) 8 and 9, drawn to a **vector** comprising a **nucleic acid** encoding an immunostimulatory polypeptide.

- d. Group IV, claim(s) 10, drawn to a **method of preventing/treating HIV-1 infection** by administering a **vector** comprising a nucleic acid encoding an immunostimulatory polypeptide.
- e. Group V, claim(s) 11 and 12, drawn to a **method for assessing immune function** in a subject.
- f. Group VI, claim(s) 11 and 12, drawn to a **method of diagnosing HIV-1 infection** in a subject.
- g. Group VII, claim(s) 13-16, drawn to a **fusion protein**.
- h. Group VIII, claim(s) 20, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition comprising **peptide-pulsed dendritic cells**.
- i. Group IX, claim(s) 21, drawn to a pharmaceutical composition comprising **transduced dendritic cells**.

The remaining groups do not share a special technical feature with Group I because they are directed toward structurally/functionally different products, compositions, and methods of use. Applicant is advised that the response to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed. Applicant is also advised that the claims should be amended, where necessary, to reflect the restriction requirement and election.

37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b)

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a diligently-filed petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(h).

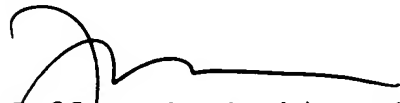
Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D., whose telephone number is (571) 272-0908. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 10:30 AM to 9:00 PM. A message may be left on the examiner's voice mail service. If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bruce R. Campell, Ph.D., can be reached at (571) 272-0974. Direct general status inquiries to the Technology Center 1600 receptionist at (571) 272-1600. Informal communications may be submitted to the Examiner's RightFAX account at (571) 273-0908.

Applicants are reminded that the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Office) requires most patent related correspondence to be: a) faxed to the Central FAX number (571-273-8300) (updated as of July 15, 2005), b) hand carried or delivered to the Customer Service Window (now located at the Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA 22314), c) mailed to the mailing address set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.1 (e.g., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450), or d) transmitted to the Office using the Office's Electronic Filing System. This notice replaces all prior Office notices specifying a specific fax number or hand carry address for certain patent related correspondence. For further information refer to the Updated Notice of Centralized Delivery and Facsimile Transmission Policy for Patent Related Correspondence, and Exceptions Thereto, 1292 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 186 (March 29, 2005).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Respectfully,



Jeffrey S. Parkin, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1648

24 December, 2007